

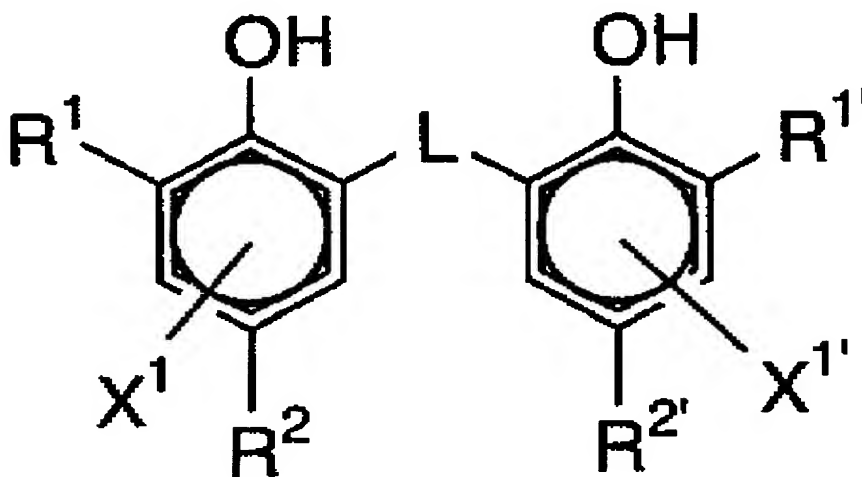
Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (previously presented): A photothermographic material comprising a photosensitive silver halide, a non-photosensitive organic silver salt, a reducing agent, and a binder on at least one surface of a support, wherein silver iodide is contained in the photosensitive silver halide in an amount of 40 % to 100 % by mole, and the reducing agent contains a compound represented by the following formula (R-1):

Formula (R-1)

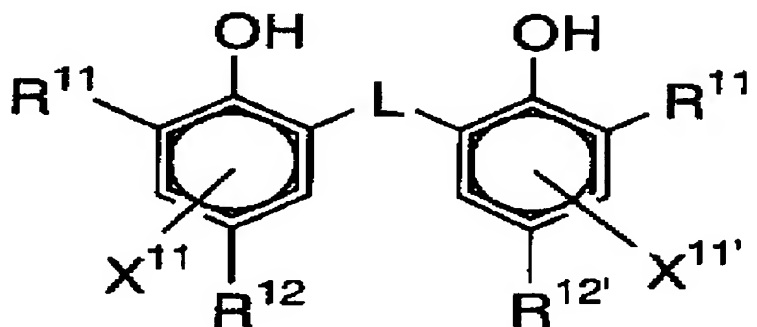


wherein R¹ and R¹' each independently represent an alkyl group having 3 to 20 carbon atoms, in which a carbon atom bonding to the benzene ring is secondary or tertiary; R²

and $R^{2'}$ each represent a methyl group; L represents an $-S-$ group or a $-CHR^3-$ group, in which R^3 represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group having 1 to 20 carbon atoms; and X^1 and $X^{1'}$ each independently represent a hydrogen atom or a group capable of being substituted on the benzene ring; and

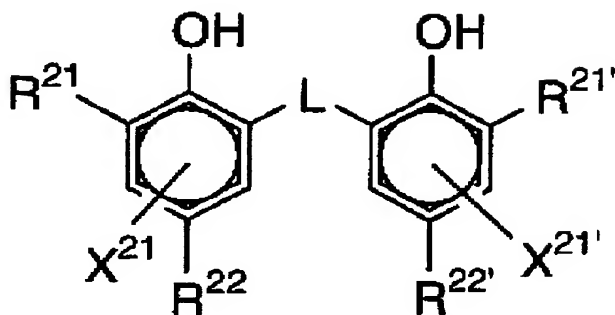
the reducing agent includes a second compound selected from formula (R-2) or from formula (R-3)

Formula (R-2)



wherein R^{11} and $R^{11'}$ each independently represent an alkyl group having 3 to 20 carbon atoms, in which a carbon atom bonding to the benzene ring is secondary or tertiary; R^{12} and $R^{12'}$ each independently represent an alkyl group having 2 to 20 carbon atoms; L represents an $-S-$ group or a $-CHR^{13}-$ group, in which R^{13} represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group having 1 to 20 carbon atoms; and X^{11} and $X^{11'}$ each independently represent a hydrogen atom or a group capable of being substituted on the benzene ring;

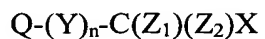
Formula (R-3)



wherein R²¹ and R²¹' each independently represent a methyl group or an alkyl group having 2 to 20 carbon atoms, in which a carbon atom bonding to the benzene ring is primary; R²² and R²²' each independently represent an alkyl group having 1 to 20 carbon atoms; L represents an -S- group or a -CHR²³- group, in which R²³ represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group having 1 to 20 carbon atoms; and X²¹ and X²¹' each independently represent a hydrogen atom or a group capable of being substituted on the benzene ring.

2. (original): The photothermographic material of claim 1, further comprising a compound represented by the following formula (H):

Formula (H)



wherein Q represents an alkyl group, an aryl group, or a heterocyclic group; Y represents

a divalent connecting group; n represents 0 or 1; Z₁ and Z₂ each represent a halogen atom; and X represents a hydrogen atom or an electron withdrawing group.

3. (original): The photothermographic material of claim 1, wherein the silver iodide is contained in the photosensitive silver halide in an amount of 90 % to 100 % by mole.

4. (original): The photothermographic material of claim 1, wherein the photosensitive silver halide has a mean grain size of 5 nm to 80 nm.

5. (original): The photothermographic material of claim 1, wherein the photosensitive silver halide has a mean grain size of 5 nm to 40 nm.

6. (canceled).

7. (canceled).

8. (original): The photothermographic material of claim 1, which is exposed with laser light.

9. (original): The photothermographic material of claim 8, wherein the laser light has a light emission peak intensity in a range of 390 nm to 430 nm.

10. (original): The photothermographic material of claim 1, wherein a characteristic curve of the photothermographic material has a gamma in a range of 2 to 5.

Claims 11-19 (canceled).